

SCIENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

March 7, 2002

Thorpewood @ Thurmont, Maryland

Purpose of meeting: Continue development of a long-term monitoring plan for the National Capital Region of the National Park Service to preserve and enhance the region's most important natural resources.

Expected Outcomes: As a result of the meeting, we will (1) develop a draft list of stressors, sources, and their ecological effects on each Important Resource within the National Capital Region, (2) begin to list draft vital signs for each Important Resource, (3) provide an update on the July Scoping meeting.

Agenda:

10:00 am	Welcome Introductions	E. Gray Participants
	Ground Rules	E. Gray
	Overview and review of January SAC	M. Koenen
	Purpose and expected outcome of mtg.	E. Gray
	Today's Workgroup Tasks	M. Koenen
11:00 am	Breakout Session – Each workgroup will meet separately to work on Stressors, Sources, and Ecological Effects.	
12:00 pm	Lunch	
12:30 pm	Breakout Session Continued	
1:40 pm	Break	
1:50 pm	Workgroup presentations – Highlight Components, Stressors and Sources (10 min ea)	
3:20 pm	Summary of meeting and review of assignments	E. Gray
3:30 pm	Close of meeting	

Directions to ThorpeWood from Washington/Baltimore/Hagerstown

12805 Mink Farm Road
Thurmont, Maryland 21788
(301) 271-2823
fax (301) 271-2060
info@thorpewood.org

From the **Washington** Beltway, I-495: take I-270 North to Frederick (go to directions below)

From the **Baltimore** Beltway, I-695: take I-70 West to Frederick (go to directions below)

From **Hagerstown**, I-81: exit onto I-70 East toward Frederick, continue approximately 25 miles, exit onto 15 North (you will be routed to two exit ramps)(go to directions below)

Directions from all above points of origin:

Exit onto **Rte 15 North** towards Gettysburg and Thurmont (from Washington, I-270, this is not truly an exit, continue straight on I-270, which ends and you will not know it and without doing anything but going straight, you find yourself on 15 North). **Thurmont** is about 15 miles northwest of Frederick.

There are 3 Thurmont exits, take the second, the exit for **Route 77**. The exit ramp is a very sharp curve and the deceleration lane is short, so take care here. At the stop sign at the bottom of the ramp turn RIGHT. This is Route 77 West towards Hagerstown, Smithsburg (a left turn takes you the wrong way and into the town of Thurmont).

Stay on this windy, climbing road for just under three miles (2.9 miles to be exact) where you will turn LEFT onto **Catoctin Hollow Road** (a green directional sign on the right hand side of the road marks this turn well).

Landmark: 2/10's of a mile before the turn onto Catoctin Hollow Road, Park Central Road into Catoctin Mountain Park will be on your right.

As you turn onto **Catoctin Hollow Road**, you are entering Cunningham Falls State Park (William Houck Area). You will see the lake on your right. Continue up Catoctin Hollow Road approximately 3 miles (2.8 exactly) turn RIGHT onto **Mink Farm Road** (unpaved).

Landmark: From time to time this road sign is stolen so make certain you turn onto the unpaved road and not Wigville Road (the paved road on the right several hundred yards before Mink Farm Rd.). You will know that you have missed the Mink Farm Road turn, if you start descending the mountain.

Continue on **Mink Farm Road** for 1.3 miles and turn LEFT into the gravel driveway. You will cross a stream twice, after the second crossing, ThorpeWood's driveway is the first left (about 150 feet beyond stream). Several hundred feet into the woods, the driveway divides, stay Right to get to the Center. Going straight puts you on a walking trail that leads by the Pavilion. **Landmark:** At the middle of a descending segment of the road just before the stream you will pass the paved entrance to Ole Mink Farm (resort and recreation center) on the right.